

RECOGNIZING THE BROWNIE BAKER

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 16, 1999

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dennis Perkins and The Brownie Baker for winning the Small Business of the Year Award in 1999. The Brownie Baker bakes and sells a variety of brownies, muffins, and cookies on a wholesale basis, primarily to the convenience store industry.

The Brownie Baker started as a family business with Marion Peterson and her sister, Susie Spotts. Dennis Perkins, then the Director of Business Development for Pepsi-Cola, bought the business on August 1, 1990.

The company has expanded its markets and the financial reports reflect this. Accounts are concentrated in California, but expand nationwide. Perkins has done an excellent job operating the company as evidenced by its growth. Sales were 1.8 million as of June 30, 1994. They have more than doubled since that time to 3.9 million as of June 30, 1998.

Perkins reorganized the means of distribution, increased product size, developed new products, changed the labels, bought a larger bakery, and bought out a competitor called Carol's Cookies. This acquisition has increased sales nearly 50 percent, growing the company from five to 48 employees. During 1998, Perkins installed a completely automated muffin line, and also many new technologically advanced money and time savers for the company.

Nearly a third of those employed at the bakery are Southeast Asian refugees placed there through the CalWORKS program.

The Brownie Baker will be diversifying its line by adding Mexican pastries.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize The Brownie Baker for its accomplishments. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing Dennis Perkins and The Brownie Baker many more years of continued success.

A TRIBUTE TO MATTHEW WILLIAM ADKISSON FOR HIS PROMOTION TO THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. CHARLES A. GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 16, 1999

Mr. GONZALEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my sincerest congratulations to Matthew William Adkisson, Boy Scout, from San Antonio, TX, upon the notification of his advancement to the rank of Eagle Scout.

Boy Scouts are awarded the prestigious rank of Eagle Scout based on their faith and obedience to the Scout Oath. The Scout Oath requires members to live with honor, loyalty, courage, cheerfulness, and an obligation to service.

In addition, the rank of Eagle Scout is only bestowed once a Boy Scout satisfies duties including, the completion of 21 merit badges, performing a service project of significant value to the community, and additional requirements listed in the Scout Handbook.

In receiving this special recognition, I believe that Eagle Scout Matthew William

Adkisson will guide and inspire his peers, toward the beliefs of the Scout Oath. I am proud to offer my congratulations to Matthew on this respected accomplishment.

HONORING THE 54TH INFANTRY OF AFRICAN AMERICAN SOLDIERS

HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 16, 1999

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate and remember the contributions of the 54th Massachusetts regiment. On July 18, 1863, 136 years ago this week, the 54th Infantry, which consisted exclusively of African American soldiers, led a gallant assault on Fort Wagner where they valiantly fought and sacrificed their lives for our country.

Despite the controversy and discrimination directed towards them, the heroic 54th failed to retreat. Feeling the need to prove themselves capable soldiers, they fought harder and accepted fiercer challenges than the average soldier. Fighting for the preservation of the Union and against the enslavement of human beings, the 54th Infantry also succeeded in paving the way for African Americans to serve in the military and be commissioned as officers—an almost insurmountable feat!

Mr. Speaker, I'm proud today to honor the memory of these soldiers, and recognize their accomplishments during the Civil War and to the future direction of our Nation. These men gave selflessly of themselves in our Nation's most brutal war for the right to be recognized as civilized men. They defended our Nation's freedoms without prejudice or apprehension, and I salute them.

IN MEMORY OF M.L. ANSON

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 16, 1999

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, it is with deep sadness that I inform the House of the death of Marion Leslie (M.L.) Anson, 77, of Higginsville, Missouri.

Mr. Anson was born December 23, 1921, in Higginsville and lived most of his lifetime in the Higginsville area. He was a 1940 graduate of Higginsville High School and also a graduate of Westminster College in Fulton, Missouri. He was a member and past president of Phi Delta Theta, a social fraternity. Mr. Anson served with the United States Navy in the Pacific Theatre during world War II with the rank of Lieutenant, Junior Grade.

Mr. Anson was active in the community. He was a former member of the Higginsville Board of Aldermen, the Higginsville Board of Education, and a founding member of the Higginsville Country Club, where he served as a member of the Board of Directors. He was a past member of the Lion's Club and was active in the Boy Scouts, serving in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say. He was a member of the Higginsville American Legion Post #223 and the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #6270. Mr. Anson was a sponsor of the Save our Strays

program in Lafayette County. He was also a member of Central Christian Church in Higginsville, where he served as a deacon and was a longtime member of the church choir.

Mr. Anson was the secretary-treasurer and co-owner with his son, Joseph, of Anson Implement, Inc., a John Deere Dealership in Higginsville. He was a former co-owner of the Smith-Anson Implement Company in Odessa, until the early 1950s, when he joined the Higginsville business with his father, Leslie Anson, and his brother-in-law, James O. Smith.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Anson was a fine American and a true friend. I know the Members of the House will join me in extending heartfelt condolences to his wife, Mary Lou; his son, Joseph; his three daughters, Maris, Jennifer, and Marion; his sister, Jean; seven grandchildren, and two step-great-grandchildren.

ON MILITARY OPERATIONS IN VIEQUES

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 16, 1999

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of thousands of residents in my district, who as Americans of Puerto Rican descent care deeply about what is happening to their many friends and relatives on the island of Vieques.

One week ago, while on a visit to Puerto Rico, I visited Vieques, at which time I met with Vieques's Mayor Manuela Santiago at a town meeting she hosted, and attended a briefing by Rear Admiral Kevin Moran, Commander, Navy Region Southeast.

On my flight to Vieques I observed an island that is naturally gifted and beautiful, with some of the most marvelous beaches in the Western Hemisphere. Its people love their island, are hardworking and industrious, as is evidenced by the fishermen I met. But Vieques' natural beauty is scarred and its tremendous economic potential is blocked by the presence and activities of the U.S. Navy.

Let me say from the outset that I do not doubt the Navy's claim that the type of training the Navy conducts as Vieques is vital to its defense mission. It certainly is. What I strongly disagree with is the Navy's position that there is nowhere else in the entire hemisphere where such training could take place. If God had not gifted us with Vieques, or if, God forbid, Vieques was subsumed by an earthquake, would the Navy tell us that it would be impossible for them to perform their defense mission for the United States? I think not.

Might it be an inconvenience? Yes. Might it take some time? Yes. Might it cost money? Yes. But to take the firm position that the nation's defense rests solely on Vieques is simply not credible or acceptable.

So why should the Navy permanently cease all live and inert ammunition exercises and, therefore, ultimately leave the island and return it to the people of Vieques and Puerto Rico? I think the answers can be found in the voices of the people of Vieques I met and in the sights I observed.

From Mayor Santiago's presentation, one would conclude the Navy has in their actions